

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached drawing(s) include changes to FIGs. 1 and 2. The sheet containing FIGs. 1 and 2 replaces the original sheet including FIGs. 1 and 2.

In the Office Action at item 1, the Examiner objected to the drawings. In order to overcome these objections, replacement figures are submitted herewith. The legend --Prior Art-- is added to FIG. 1 and Fig. 2. Approval of these changes to the Drawings is respectfully requested.

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, FIGs. 1 and 2 and claims 14-17, 23, 25-26, 33, 35-38, and 40-41 are amended. No new matter is presented and, accordingly, approval and entry of the foregoing amended drawings and claims are respectfully requested. Claims 1-26, 33-38, and 40-41 are pending and under consideration.

ITEM 1: OBJECTION TO DRAWINGS

In item 1, the Examiner objects to the drawings contending that the legend --Prior Art-- should be added to FIG. 1 and Fig. 2. FIGs. 1 and 2 are amended herein to add the legend --Prior Art--.

Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

ITEM 2:OBJECTION TO CLAIMS 15-22 UNDER 37 CFR 1.75 (C)

In item 2, the Examiner objects to claims 15-22 under 37 CFR 1.75 (c) as being of improper dependent form in that claim 15 (upon which claims 16-22 depend) claims the "digital circuitry as claimed in claim 1, including a plurality of individual circuit units." (Action at page 2).

Claim 15 (upon which claims 16-22 depend) is amended herein and rewritten in independent form, and withdrawal of the objection is requested.

ITEM 3: OBJECTION TO CLAIMS 14-26, 33-35, AND 37-38 BECAUSE OF INFORMALITIES

The Examiner objects to claims 14-26, 33-35, and 37-38 because of informalities. (Action at pages 2-3).

Claims 14-17, 23, 25, 26, 33, 35, and 37-38 are amended herein as the Examiner suggests on page 3 of the Action. Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

ITEM 5: REJECTION OF CLAIMS 15-22, 36-38, 40, AND 41 UNDER 35 U.S.C. 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH, AS BEING INDEFINITE

In item 5, the Examiner rejects claims 15-22, 36-38, 40, and 41 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Regarding claim 15, the Examiner contends "the phrase "such an" in line 2 and "such a" in line 3, render the claim indefinite. . . . The "a plurality of individual circuit units" does not clearly indicate the relation or the connection to the input signal processing circuit, the first clock element, the second clock element; and the clock generating circuitry of the claim 1." (Action at pages 3-4). Claim 15 is amended herein to be in independent form including deleting/replacing the term "such."

Regarding claim 36 the Examiner contends the terms "said one or more output signal(s)" lack antecedent bases, and regarding claim 41, lines 14-16: the terms "the one or more output

signal(s)" lack antecedent bases. Claims 36 and 41 are amended herein to provide proper antecedence.

Regarding claim 40, the Examiner contends that in the phrase "one or more output signal(s)" does not clearly indicate what are the "one or more output signal(s)." Claim 40 is amended herein to recite "an analog circuit connected to said digital circuit receiving therefrom one or more output signal(s) to produce one or more analog signal(s) in dependence upon one or more output signal(s) from the digital circuit." (Emphasis added).

Withdrawal of the rejection to claims 15-22, 36-38, 40, and 41 is requested.

ITEMS 6-7 ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 1-13 are allowed.

The Examiner indicates that "claims 14, 23-26, and 33-35 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objections listed in the paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Office action," and "claims 15-22, 36-38, 40 and 41 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action." (Action at page 4).

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter. Applicable claims are amended to address each of the Examiner's concerns, as the Examiner suggests, and withdrawal of the objection and rejection to the same is requested.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: April 13, 2005

By: Paul W. Bobowiec
Paul W. Bobowiec
Registration No. 47,431

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501

Annotated Sheet

PRIOR ART

D_1-D_m

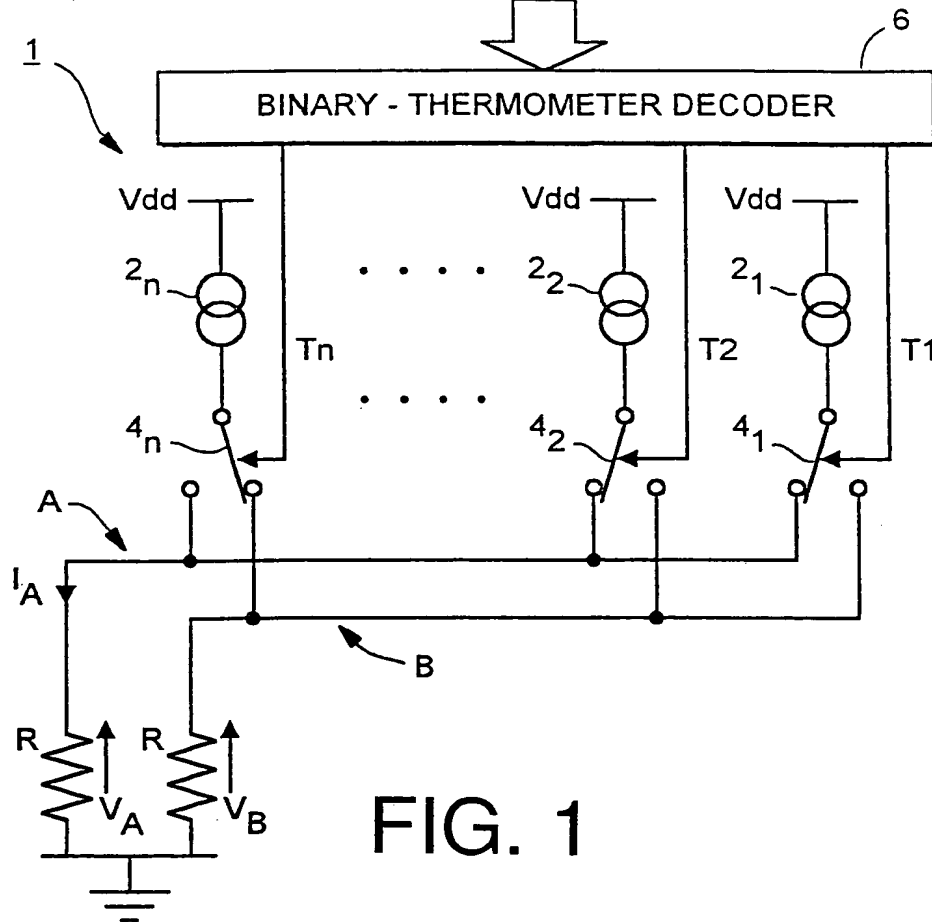


FIG. 1

PRIOR ART

BINARY INPUT WORD			THERMOMETER-CODED SIGNALS						
D3	D2	D1	T7	T6	T5	T4	T3	T2	T1
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

FIG. 2